

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR CITY OF COVINGTON

Joseph U. Meyer Mayor Covington City Hall jumeyer@covingtonky.gov

## EXECUTIVE ORDER CITY OF COVINGTON, KENTUCKY

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2021-EO-46**

## CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Mayor Joseph U. Meyer signed Executive Order 2020-EO-01, declaring a state of emergency in the City of Covington due to the outbreak of COVID-19 virus, a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, applicable Kentucky laws authorize a mayor to exercise emergency powers to efficiently and effectively provide for the health, safety and welfare of citizens; and

WHEREAS, 2020 KY SB150 was recently adopted, and it provides alternative procedures for conducting public agency meetings notwithstanding KRS 61.826 during this public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with federal and state directives to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus, City of Covington Board of Commissioners meetings have been conducted via video teleconference; and

WHEREAS, as vaccination programs reach new milestones, the Board of Commissioners believes it is proper to return to in-person meetings, subject to the implementation of appropriate processes and safeguards to minimize the risk of the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

NOW and therefore, I, Joseph U. Meyer, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Covington, Kentucky by KRS Chapter 39A, KRS 39B, in furtherance of the declaration set forth in Executive Order 2020-EO-01, and notwithstanding Executive Orders 2020-EO-03 and 2020-EO-12 hereby order:

 Caucus and Legislative meetings shall continue to be held as scheduled and shall be held in-person at the Covington Commission Chambers at 20 W. Pike Street, Covington, Kentucky.

- City Elected Officials and Non-Elected Officials will be able to attend all Caucus and Legislative meetings in-person or via video teleconference, subject to applicable laws and regulations.
- City staff will not be expected to attend Caucus and Legislative meetings in-person
  unless the staff member is presenting an item at a Caucus or Legislative meeting. City
  department heads and/or staff who are not attending meetings in-person should
  continue to attend meetings via video teleconference.
- All in-person Board of Commissioner Caucus and Legislative meetings shall be open to the public, subject to reasonable capacity and social distancing requirements.
- The City will make reasonable efforts to accommodate any member of the public who
  wishes to attend in-person meetings, subject to applicable federal and state directives.
- Any member of the public who does not wish to attend in-person meetings may continue to access the meetings as detailed below.
- Any news media representatives may attend the meetings in-person, subject to applicable capacity and social distancing requirements. News media representatives may also continue to access the meetings as detailed below.
- Each meeting will be broadcast live through the TBNK's cable and streaming outlets and available at:

https://tbnk.vod.castus.tv/vod/?nav=programs%2FCity%20of%20Covington

https://www.covingtonky.gov/government/mayor-commissioners (click on "latest videos" just under the photos of the commissioners)

Fioptics channel 815

Spectrum Channel 203

- During any meeting conducted under this Order the meeting shall be suspended in the
  event of any unanticipated interruption in the video or audio broadcast of a member
  of the Board of Commissioners who is attending the meeting virtually.
- Public comments will be allowed at the in-person meetings.
- Any officials joining at one location during the broadcast of a meeting shall take all steps to remain the minimum recommended social distancing.
- The meeting agenda and backup materials will continue to be available to the public on the usual schedule in accordance with Commissioners' Order ORD-01-21.
- The City Clerk shall include in all notices of the meeting notification in a prominent location that due to COVID-19 and the declared state of emergency that the meeting is now open to personal attendance by members of the public and is also accessible

for remote observation by members of the public through live streaming and the TBNK outlets listed above.

- The City Clerk shall memorialize the notification in the meeting minutes.
- A meeting agenda may continue to include presentations or testimony from individuals or by groups outside of City government by advance arrangement with the commission, as has been the practice, subject to further public health and government directives.

This Order shall remain in effect until terminated by the issuance of another Executive Order when I determine that a state of emergency no longer exists and the exercise of extraordinary measures are no longer required for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare.

THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE APRIL 5, 2021 AND SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL RESCINDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER.

Signed on this the day of April, 2021.

Joseph U. Meyer, Mayor

Attest: